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THE LOUISVILLE TIMES

Union Hits Anti-Smoke Campaigns

Chicago Daily News Service

CHICAGO — The AFL-CIO Tobacco Workers International Union fought back today against the federal government and the medical profession.

The union said it just isn't so that "the elimination of smoking would be a cure-all for the diseases it is alleged to cause"—lung cancer, respiratory illnesses and body poisons.

The 160 delegates at the union's 14th convention unanimously adopted a resolution yesterday urging Congress to repeal restrictions on the marketing and advertising methods of cigarette-making and tobacco companies.

The delegates represent 35,000 workers who handle tobacco from the auction to the cigarette package, pipe tobacco can, chewing pouch and snuff box.

They said that, after years of research, the medical profession itself disagrees over the effects of tobacco.

Propaganda Charged

They added that the "continuing onslaught" of propaganda against smoking:

- ✓ Is a serious threat to the survival of the tobacco industry.

- ✓ Jeopardizes the jobs and security of members of the union and millions of others who depend upon the growing and sale of tobacco for a living.

John O'Hare, 64, of Washington, president of the 73-year-old union, said the government regulation that cigarette packages must carry the warning: "Caution: Cigarette smoking may be hazardous to your health," has not affected the use of cigarettes.

"The plants are working two 10-hour shifts, seven days a week," stressed O'Hare. "People smoke to relieve tension—the first thing a wounded soldier asks for is a cigarette—and because of habit, just like coffee drinking."

In the highly automated industry, some machines turn out 2,000 cigarettes a minute. The workers average \$2.90 an hour, plus \$1 to \$1.25 an hour in benefits, according to Robert J. Petree, secretary-treasurer.

Health Service Tries To Make Smoking Less Hazardous

WASHINGTON (AP)—If you can't or won't stop smoking cigarettes, says the U.S. Public Health Service, here are five ways to reduce what it calls the perils:

- ✓ Choose cigarettes with less tar and nicotine.

- ✓ Don't smoke your cigarette all the way down.

- ✓ Take fewer draws on each cigarette.

- ✓ Reduce your inhaling.

- ✓ Smoke fewer cigarettes each day.

The advice is contained in a new pamphlet, "If You Must Smoke," issued by the health service on behalf of its National Clearing House for Smoking and Health.

But the service said yesterday the only way to escape the perils is to quit smoking altogether, as do about 1.5 million Americans each year. It had this to say to the tens of millions who continue to smoke:

"Anything short of quitting is a compromise."

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